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COUNTRY USSR (Moscow Oblast) REPORT [REDACTED]

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1. A [REDACTED] report on facilities and courses available at the Higher Military Academy i/n Frunze (Vysshaya Voennoy Akademii imeni Frunze) in Moscow

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2. [REDACTED] the school of general tactics (obshchaya taktika) and comprised a special group (osobaya gruppa). Training in general tactics and political subjects was given in four or five courses and on satisfactory completion of training, students were promoted to the next rank above that which was held on entering the course. The academy had four other schools [REDACTED] the school of history and geography, the school of aviation, the school of artillery, and the tank school.

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3. Between the period of World War II and 1948, the director of the academy was Colonel-General (fnu) Chisov, who had two deputies, the head of the school of general tactics and the head of supplies. Among the instructors who taught [REDACTED] were three infantry officers: Colonel (fnu) Ruskin, Major-General (fnu) Svercheskiy, and Major-General (fnu) Malinovskiy. [REDACTED]

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4. At irregular intervals, students were sent to Podolsk (N 55-23, E 37-30), Kuntsevo (N 55-24, E 37-26), or other areas for tactical exercises. }

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REPORT ON VYSSHAYA VOYENNAYA AKADEMIYA IMENI FRUNZE (1), Moscow

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1. General Characteristics.

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b. The academy is located in the small square of DEVICHETO TYULYA

in the FRUNZENSKIY Rayon of

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Moscow.

c. It is under the MINISTERSTVO OBORONY (Ministry of Defense).

d. It is national in character.

Soviet citizens of the various nationalities studied there

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They were taking military and political courses

All those who entered the academy had the

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rank of major or higher, except , who was a captain.

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B. Organization of the Academy

a. Administration

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During the German-Soviet war [World War II],
Colonel General [equivalent to a Lieutenant General] CHISOV () took over
the academy and stayed until 1948.

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The director is assisted by two deputies--[the head] of the School
of General Tactics

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c. The academy is divided into five Schools;

1. The School of History and Geography
2. The School of Aviation
3. The School of Artillery
4. The Tank School
5. The School of General Tactics

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2. Under the School of General Tactics

studying general tactics and the various political subjects ~~(b)(1), (b)(7)(C)~~.

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The training consisted of 4 or 5 courses. At the end of the training they were promoted to the next rank above the one they had when they entered the academy.

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C. Procedure followed at the Academy.

a. CHISOV ~~(b)(1), (b)(7)(C)~~ was the director of the Academy.

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There was a Political Section commissar in charge

b. Classes were given in a room measuring about 25 square meters, on the fifth floor of the academy.

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The building had six floors, and the rooms were numbered by the floor, from the ground up.

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[redacted]

c. During the time they boarded at the Academy, 30 to 45 days, they occupied bedrooms containing 2, 3, 4, or 5 beds. The two-bed rooms measured 12 or 14 square meters. It had a window measuring 3 square meters on the right side of the academy, facing the frontispiece of the building.

The three-bed rooms measured 16 to 18 square meters; they had a window of the same size as the rooms mentioned before.

[redacted] a four-bed room measuring about 18 to 20 square meters, with a window identical to the foregoing.

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The five-bed room measured about 20 or 25 square meters. It also had a window with the same measurements as the previously mentioned rooms.

For furniture, the bedrooms had only a night table and an ordinary chair; the suitcases were stored under the beds.

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[redacted]

The teaching staff did not live at the academy; the other employees did not sleep there.

Everyone made his own bed. Smoking was not allowed in the bedrooms. House cleaning was done by a number of women.

d. There was a common dining hall at the academy, with a reserved place for the teachers, separated by a red curtain. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~.

The dining room was located on the ground floor of the building, to the right of the main entrance, going in. Beyond the hall, there was a staircase leading to the other floors.

The staircase was made of white marble and the railing must have been of iron [redacted]

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Next to the staircase, there was a sort of two-way open elevator which moved constantly. One could use this elevator instead of the staircase.

To the right of the hall, which contained no furniture except the bronze bust of FRUNZE, was the entrance to the dining room, with a glass screen serving as a door.

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The dining room was square-shaped and about 160 square meters. On the wall opposite the entrance there were several wide windows

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covered with white, transparent curtains.

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There were photographs of Soviet leaders on the wall.

The room was furnished with wooden tables.

and chairs, not fastened, of the same material.

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The teachers used the section on the right, about one-third of the entire room.

Meals were served in shifts. The meals were served by waitresses wearing aprons and white caps.

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At the end of the classes, each student could descend to the dining room when he wished, being required only to adhere to the scheduled shifts.

There was only one library, on the third or fourth floor. It was a rectangular room about 15 meters long and 8 to 10 meters wide.

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The library had small individual tables, although two persons could sit at each.

The library was serviced by several young girls

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They wore street clothes, of no particular style.

Each student had a booklet in which the name of the book he borrowed would be written; this sort of file card was kept at the library. When the student returned the book, the book's title was erased from the card, which was returned to the student.

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[All the library books except the "secret" ones could be used. Books on tactics were considered to be secret. To get books of this nature, it was necessary to have a permit [carnet].

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The library was open all day; at least from 0900 to 1800 hours.

Smoking was not allowed.

Note: In the USSR it is forbidden to smoke in any public building, factory, workshop, academy, hotel, etc. There is a special room for this purpose in all these buildings, next to the rest rooms.

[The academy has a Club located in a PEREULOK between SMOLENSKAYA () and ZUBOVSKAYA () Squares, both of which are in FRUNZENSKIY () Rayon.

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This building had a ground floor and two additional floors.

[Admittance was by military documents from the academy; relatives also could enter.

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[On the second floor there was a dance hall with a small bar in one corner. There was also another hall for events such as motion pictures, lectures, etc.

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[On the third or fourth floor of the academy there was a study hall for the students and teachers. It was a room 15 or 20 meters square, with windows on opposite walls. There were wooden chairs and individual tables in the room. Two or three women in street clothes handled the occasional requests for books (there was a small library) and kept the room in order.

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[redacted]

[redacted] On one of the floors of the academy [redacted]

[redacted] there was an auditorium about 30 meters long and 20 meters wide, where motion pictures were shown and lectures were given for the Soviet students. [redacted]

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This auditorium was not equipped to show motion pictures; when a picture was to be shown, a screen was placed on the wall and the projector was placed on a chair opposite the screen.

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[redacted]

[redacted] The auditorium was not large enough to hold all the voluntary audience [redacted]

Sports: The academy had a soccer team [redacted]

[redacted] They had to train and play on other fields, because there were none at hand.

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To the left of the ground floor entrance there was a gymnasium with several windows in the left wall and a sufficient number of shower stalls.

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The gymnasium was about 25 or 30 meters long and about 10 or 12 meters wide. It was equipped with rings, climbing ropes, horses couch. parallel bars, and trapeze. [redacted]

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The first course required daily sessions. Later attendance was optional.

e. Heating Installation. All the rooms of the academy had radiators from a central heating system. [redacted]

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[redacted] The building -- rooms, corridors, etc. -- were heated to a normal temperature, and the atmosphere was thus pleasant and comfortable.

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f. There was an infirmary in the courtyard of the academy

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The infirmary was located in a passageway, with several rooms.

At the infirmary there were physicians and nurses;

On each floor of the academy there were bathrooms. ~~There~~ There were only washstands with one or two towels each

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These washstands, like the majority of those in Moscow, have a hot-air blower to dry the hands, head, and face, if one wishes. The blowers are attached firmly to the wall and are started by pressing on a pedal. Others are started by pushing a button. They are very good and hygienic. Inside the entrance hall of the academy and to the right, there was a small room which served as a barber shop, with three or four chairs. Everyone paid for his haircut.

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g. On the ground floor, in the section of the dining room reserved for the teachers, there was a small window connecting with the kitchen. The waitresses would receive the food, dessert, etc. through this window and serve the teachers and students.

It must have been forbidden to visit the kitchens.

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[REDACTED]

Meals were served on ordinary porcelain plates and a dispenser with paper napkins was placed at each table at which four persons were served.

At the beginning of 1941, a tailor took the measurements [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] to make them full dress uniforms of the academy.

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This uniform differed from the ordinary one in that it had a jacket instead of the 'GIMMASTERKA' (). (This is the common Russian shirt which hangs outside of the trousers).

The uniform jacket had a left, inside pocket and the insignia were worn in the center of the points of the collar. There were tailor shops and clothing stores. [REDACTED]

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h. The instruction material was obsolete. The Manual Artillery used dated from 1927, and the POLEVOY USTAV () (Field Manual) was from 1937, [REDACTED]

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i. The furniture was in good condition; it was not modern furniture, but ordinary office furniture.

The outside maintenance at the academy was very good; [REDACTED]

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j. There were no farm, gardens, or vegetable plots.

D. Routine of Living

a. The academy operated generally on an off-the-campus basis. The Soviet students and teachers lived on the outskirts in houses provided through the academy.

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From then on, they were at the Academy only during the hours of classes, which were compulsory.

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b. Schedule of a Boarding Student

0900 hours, awakened by a soldier on the academy staff.

0900 - 1200 or 1300, lessons.

1200 - 1300, lunch.

1300 - 15 00, lessons.

1500 - 2100, individual study in class.

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2000 - 2200, supper. Each chose his own time.

From 1500 hours they could leave for a stroll.

There was no roll call at any activity at the academy.

One did not have to attend any of the meals.

At 2330 hours they had to be back at the Academy. After this hour, the guard would not allow anyone to enter.

Schedule for day students. There was no change in schedule at the academy between the period as boarding students until they were given houses.

They would have a snack at the time for the first meal and go home at 1500 hours.

C. Life During the Boarding-in Period

Breakfast, lunch, and supper were à la carte. All three meals would cost about 30 rubles daily.

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2. Meals were à la carte for all the students and teachers.

3. Textbooks were provided by the academy, but the students had to buy pencils, pens, paper, rulers, etc.

The students were not compensated for such expenses.

4. Clothing

Every year one summer uniform consisting of GIMNASTERKA (~~skirt~~) and trousers.

Every year one pair of good leather boots.

One pair of PORTYANKY (~~socks~~) ^{FOOT WRAPPINGS}

One [flat-top?] garrison cap every 3 years.

One officer's belt

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One winter uniform, consisting of KITEL' (~~skirt~~) or GIMNASTERKA (~~skirt~~) and trousers, every year.

One pair of knitted winter underwear

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Every 2 or 3 years a woolen winter cap.

Every 2 or 3 years a long winter overcoat.

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All this wearing apparel was supplied free of charge.

Every 2 or 3 years a full dress uniform consisting of a KITEL' (~~skirt~~), a pair of trousers, and an officer's garrison cap.

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6. There were no other fees payable except that of the State Zayem Loan.

From 1935 to 1941, [redacted] the voluntary contribution of 3,000 rubles, at the rate of 300 rubles deducted every month. From 1941 until 1948, [redacted]

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This was done by deducting every 30 days 10 percent of the total contribution.

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b. Courses at the Academy

1. The only major taken at the academy is OBRASHCHEVOYSKOVOY

KOMANDIR (Chief of all Arms)

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2. The course began in September, at the same time as all other schools, institutes, and universities in the USSR.

The course ended in June or July. During this time, no special examinations were given. At certain times

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and very irregularly, the students would go to different training fields for tactical exercises, including PODOLSK and KUNTSEVO . PODOLSK is a small town located southwest of Moscow.

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The trips were made in passenger coaches, probably military.

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KUNTSEVO is about 30-40 kilometers west of Moscow.

Exercises were carried out in flat terrain or in woods. During these exercises, the instructor would ask a student to explain the location of the enemy and his own forces. In difficult problems, they would evaluate the enemy's defenses, whether field, permanent, or light defenses.

The student was termed the leader of the beleaguered unit; he would have to explain how he would station his forces for defense and to attack the enemy.

The instructor would correct the mistakes the students made and would end with a summary of the tactical exercise.

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These exercises were usually done in the morning and the students would return to Moscow in time for lunch.

They would depart from Moscow around 0900 hours and return around 1300 or 1400 hours.

3. Curriculum for Each Course

The first course offered General Tactics; History of the Military Art (World War I); History of the USSR; Geography of the USSR, and of the World; and Marxism - Leninism.

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Tactical exercises

4. To take the next course, the student must have passed all subjects, or else he was expelled.

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the grades the students made in the tactical

exercises were taken into consideration.

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In the second course, the same subjects were given as in the first, but they covered more.

The examination was oral and written, but mostly oral.

The written examination was limited to answering a questionnaire on the subjects studied daily during the year.

There was no theoretical nor practical thesis during the two courses.

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5. All students who have passed a course, receive from the academy a diploma of aptitude or completion.

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C. Military Drill

The students received drill only to prepare for military parades, such as those of 1 May and 7 November.

A few days before these observances, those selected for the parade would practice for a short while in the morning.

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d. Political Instruction

1. Political instruction was compulsory and rather intensive. There was no fixed schedule. One day the class might be for one hour, and a couple of days later for 3 or 4, the day between would be for resting.
2. The subjects in these studies were the history of the Party and the works of Lenin, Stalin, Karl Marx, and Engels. The teachers gave lectures on these subjects, expanding on the lessons, but never asked the students any questions. Every 2 or 3 months, at any given class there would be a meeting called a "seminar"

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During these seminars the instructor would choose the subject the student would have to discuss. The instructor would then correct his mistakes and explain the parts that the student had not understood.

For the test, the student would draw a slip and had to present the subject he had drawn. These examinations were always oral.

3. there was a Political Section in charge of all political matters.

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4. They were only given the lectures in class.

F. Personnel of the Academy.

a. The director of the academy was CHISOV already described.

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At the end of 1941,
when the academy was evacuated to TASHKENT by order of the FRUNZE
management

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